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PATENTS



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Alfred O. Bonati  
Philip J. Ware

S.N.: 08/108,036

Filed: 08/17/93

For: Cervical Discectomy Instruments  
and Method

) Examiner: Bennett, C.

) Art Unit: 3307

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

ELECTION AND RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT  
FOR RESTRICTION

In Paper No. 2, mailed May 27, 1994, having a shortened  
statutory period for response set to expire June 27, 1994,  
the Examiner required restriction of the following inventions  
under 35 USC §121:

- I. Claim 1, drawn to a push knob for a guide wire;
- II. Claims 2-6, drawn to a dilator tube, and the  
associated method of using said dilator tube;
- III. Claim 7, drawn to a ligament cutter;
- IV. Claim 8, drawn to a cervical osteotome;
- V. Claims 9 and 11, drawn to a cervical curette;
- VI. Claim 10, drawn to a sheer-type nucleus  
extractor;
- VII. Claims 12-14 drawn to a method for debulking a  
cervical tissue;
- VIII. Claim 15, drawn to a method of removing a  
protruding tissue from abutting engagement with a nerve.

8-15-94

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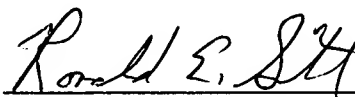
Election

It was the Examiner's position that Groups I-VIII are distinct and independent inventions, one from another. This requirement for restriction of applicants' invention is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement.

In accordance with such requirement, however, applicants elect Group II for the purpose of prosecution.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ronald E. Smith", is written over a horizontal line.

Ronald E. Smith  
Mason & Associates P.A.  
18167 U.S. 19 North, Suite 150  
Clearwater, Florida 34624-6566  
(813) 538-3800  
Reg. No.: 28,761

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